



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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DISASTER LOAN OUTREACH CENTER OPENS IN BRANCHVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the opening of a new Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Branchville, South Carolina making it convenient for the disaster victims affected by the severe storms and tornadoes on March 15, 2008 to apply for disaster loan assistance. This Center will service Orangeburg County, which is eligible for SBA disaster assistance because it is contiguous to one or more of the primary counties in the South Carolina declaration.

The SBA encourages victims to visit the Branchville Center or the other Centers in the counties of Aiken, Allendale and Williamsburg in South Carolina to apply for assistance. “Providing individual assistance is an important part of what we do to help people recover from a disaster,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East. “SBA Customer Service Representatives are on hand at the Centers to issue loan applications, explain the process and assist individuals in completing their application.”

The location of the new Disaster Loan Outreach Center is located at:

Orangeburg County

Temporary Police Dept Building at Old Town Hall Site
7644 Freedom Road
Branchville, SC 29432

Opens: Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, April 13

Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Closing: Thursday, April 17, at close of business

Other South Carolina Centers are located in the following communities and open as indicated, until further notice:

Aiken County

Bath Fire Department
115 School Road
Bath, SC 29816

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 12th, 9 a.m. – 1p.m. (one Saturday Only)

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Allendale County

Allendale County Courthouse
391 Barnwell-Allendale Hwy
Allendale, SC 29810

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, April 12th, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (one Saturday Only)

Williamsburg County

Williamsburg County Recreation Complex
2084 Thurgood Marshall Highway
Kingstree, SC 29556

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, April 12th, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (one Saturday Only)

“Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property,” said Frank Skaggs.

Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, inventory, machinery and equipment. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses only, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Anyone unable to visit the Centers may obtain an application by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center toll-free 1-800-659-2955. Hearing impaired individuals may call 1-800-877-8339. Business loan applications can also be downloaded from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be returned to one of the Centers or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX. 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **June 2, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **January 5, 2009**.

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For more information about the SBA’s Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov.